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3723

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kitahashi et al.)
Serial No.: 10/528,287) Attorney Docket:
Filed: March 16, 2005) 1110/93928
For: POLISHING APPARATUS, POLISHING HEAD) Art Group:
AND POLISHING METHOD) 3723
Examiner: Maurina T. Rachuba) Confirmation No.:
6612

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents that may be material to the examination of this application is provided on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. Documents 1 and 2, listed on the attached Form 1449 are a U.S. Patent which is the equivalent of the cited Chinese patent that may be relevant to the examination of the present application. Copies of Documents 1 and 1 are enclosed herewith. Also enclosed is a copy of an Office Action in China, citing the Chinese Patent herein.

No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making

reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609 of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

The cited documents disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the documents and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any

document herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and documents recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

The recitation herein of the art and documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Gerald T. Shekleton, Reg. No. 27,466

Enclosures:

Form PTO/SB/08
One copy of Office Action, Art 1 and 2
Return Postcard

Welsh & Katz, Ltd.
22nd Floor
120 South Riverside Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60606
312/655-1500



Serial No. 10/528,287

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement, together with the stated enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on April 25, 2007.

Carol T. Shih



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 1 of 1		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/528,287
		Filing Date	March 16, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Kitahashi et al.
		Art Unit	3723
		Examiner Name	Maurina T. Rachuba
		Attorney Docket Number	1110/93928

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	6.224,712			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	2	CN 1078836C				Abs

OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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